

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 04079 251855Z

20

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SCA-01 SR-02 ORM-01 PPT-01 FBIE-00 INSE-00 /072 W

----- 093065

R 251440Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8563

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR PINT UR US

SUBJ: SOVIET PRESS ON JEWISH EMIGRANTS' PROBLEMS IN ROME

1. APN-PRODUCED ARTICLE ENTITLED "AT THE ROME FLEA MARKET," RE PROBLEMS OF SOVIET JEWISH EMIGRANTS STRANDED IN ROME, CURRENTLY BEING FEATURED IN SOME MOSCOW AND REPUBLIC PAPERS. ARTICLE CLAIMS THT EMIGRANTS DELAYED IN ROME FROM THREE MONTHS TO A YEAR AND LONGER BECAUSE THEY DO NOT WISH TO GO TO ISRAEL AND CANNOT OBTAIN ENTRY VISAS FOR U.S. UNNAMED U.S. SENATOR QUOTED AS SAYING THAT JUSTICE DEPARTMENT HOLDING BACK VISAS FOR MORE THAN 2,000 EMIGRANTS. U.S. PICTURED AS UNENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT EMGRANTS' PROBLEMS BECAUSE THEIR "PROPAGANDA VALUE HAS DRIED UP" AND BECAUSE U.S. HAS ITS OWN PROBLEM OF UNEMPLOYMENT.

2. ARTICLE CLAIMS THAT ROME AUTHORITIES BECOMING CONCERNED ABOUT NUMBER OF EMIGRANTS AND THE ROME-BASED AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE AND H.I.A.S. GRUDGINGLY FIND CHEAP APARTMENTS FOR EMIGRANTS AND GIVE THEM SMALL SUM OF 3,000 LIRA PER  
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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 04079 251855Z

DAY FOR FOOD. EMIGRANTS DEPICTED AS IN HOPELESS

SITUATION, FALLING INTO LIVES OF CRIME AND "ACQUIRING TO  
ARTICLE, EMIGRANTS' MAIN MEANS OF LIVELIHOOD IS  
SELLING CIGARETTES, RECORDS, SOVENIERS AND  
CONTRABAND ITEMS IN ROME'S MAIN FLEA MARKET.

3. ARTICLE GOES ON TO QUOTE FROM PRESS CONFERENCE IN  
ROME GIVEN RECENTLY BY FORMER SOVIET JEWISH ACTIVIST  
VIKTOR POLSKIY, WHO REPORTEDLY COMPLAINED ABOUT DELAYS  
BY SOVIET OFFICIALS IN PROCESSING VISA APPLICATIONS  
AND ABOUT REFUSAL TO GRANT SOVIET PASSPORT TO JEWISH  
EMIGRANTS. APN'S DISINGENUOUS ANSWER TO LATTER IS THAT  
SOVIET PASSPORTS WOULD BECOME "GOODS" FOR SALE IN  
ROME MARKET AND WOULD ALSO BE FOUND BY POLICE WHEN THEY  
PICK UP PETTY CRIMINALS (I.E., EMIGRANTS). ARTICLE  
CONCLUDES BY SAYING SENATOR JACKSON ALSO ANGRY THAT  
SO FEW NOW LEAVING SOVIET UNION, BUT HE IS QUIET WHEN  
JUSTICE DEPARTMENT REFUSES TO GRANT U.S. VISAS.

4. COMMENT: ARTICLE CLEARLY INTENDED TO FEED  
DOUBTS OF POTENTIAL EMIGRANTS ABOUT SITUATION  
IN WEST AND ABOUT ATTITUDE OF U.S. AUTHORITIES TOWARD  
EMIGRANTS AND THEIR PROBLEMS IN ROME.  
STOESSEL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, JEWS, EMIGRANTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 25 MAR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** KelleyW0  
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**Review Date:** 10 JUN 2003  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, PINT, UR, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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